

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace any previous listing of the claims with the following replacement listing of the claims:

Replacement Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A source control system for a process control system, comprising:
 - a processor in a process control system;
 - a database accessible by said processor to store information associated with an object under source control to be checked-out; and
 - a check-out function operable on said processor to check-out said object, to use said information to determine whether any dependent objects exist and whether at least one parent object exists, and to automatically check-out said existing dependent objects, wherein said stored information includes a reference to said existing parent object, wherein said object being checked out is a user defined template that is derived from a preconfigured object, and wherein said existing dependent objects are children user defined templates of said object being checked out or instances of said object being checked out or of said children user defined templates.
2. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a propagation function operable on said processor to propagate changes made to said object being checked out to said existing dependent objects and to said existing parent object, when said object being checked out is saved, wherein said stored information includes a reference to a parent object.
3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said stored information is at least one selected from the group consisting of: a name, a version number, a type and a status.

5. (Currently amended) A method of automatic check-out for a source control system in a process control system, comprising:

storing information associated with an object;
receiving a request from a user to check-out said object;
determining whether any dependent objects of said object being checked out exist and whether any parent objects exist based on said information, wherein said stored information includes a reference to said existing parent objects;
automatically checking-out said existing dependent objects when said object is checked-out, wherein said object being checked out is a user defined template that is derived from a preconfigured object, and wherein said existing dependent objects are children user defined templates of said object being checked out or instances of said object being checked out or of said children user defined templates; and
providing a status to said user.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 5, further comprising:

sorting said existing dependent objects so that said existing parents precede children.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein one of said existing dependent objects is a derivation child of said object being checked out.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

automatically checking-out said derivation child only if said derivation child is checked-in.

9-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium having executable instructions stored thereon to perform a method of version control, said method comprising:

when checking-in an object, determining relationships of said object by:

determining whether said object being checked-in has a first derivation parent;

adding a name and a version of said first derivation parent to a list of object relationships, if said object being checked-in has said first derivation parent;

determining for each contained object that is contained in said object being checked-in, whether said contained object has a second derivation parent, if said object being checked-in does not have said first derivation parent;

adding a name and a version of said second derivation parent to said list of object relationships, if said contained object being checked-in has said second derivation parent; and

providing said list of object relationships.

17. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having executable instructions stored thereon to perform a method of automatic check-out for a source control system in a process control system, said method comprising

storing information associated with an object;

receiving a request from a user to check-out said object;

determining whether any dependent objects of said object being checked-out exist and whether at least one parent object of said object exists based on said information, wherein said stored information includes a reference to said existing parent object;

automatically checking-out said existing dependent objects when said object being checked-out is checked-out, wherein said object being checked-out is a user defined template, and wherein said existing dependent objects are children user defined templates of said object being checked-out or instances of said object being checked-out or of said children user defined templates; and

providing a status to said user.